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OGC Has Reviewed

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21 May 1952

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Personnel Director

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Allowances for CIA Personnel in [REDACTED]

1. Pursuant your instructions I communicated with the Agencies indicated and received the following information:

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a. Department of Air Force: A representative of the Department of Air Force indicated that they had no recent information from the Air Force installation in [REDACTED] which would indicate that the present allowance authorized for that area is other than adequate. Although the Air Force installation [REDACTED] is situated outside of [REDACTED], it is believed that a number of the civilian employees at that base reside in [REDACTED] and would be subject to the living costs prevalent in that area. The Air Force representative indicated that in the absence of a recommendation from their installation that the allowance be increased, it could only be assumed that the present allowance is adequate.

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b. Civil Service Commission: A representative of the Commission indicated that at the present time a Bureau of Labor Statistics group is in [REDACTED] collecting living cost data. Upon completion of their survey, their findings will be utilized by the Civil Service Commission to review the allowance presently authorized for [REDACTED]. The survey is not expected to be completed, however, for at least two months. The CSC representative was able to furnish the cost of living data set forth below, purely as a matter of information. These data were taken from the Consumers Price Index published on 4 April 1952 by the [REDACTED] Government of [REDACTED]. These figures are not comparable with the corresponding [REDACTED] figures, but they furnish an indication of the cost of living situation in [REDACTED] during the last two years.

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<u>Date</u>	<u>COL Index</u>
March 1952	137.5
December 1951	137.9
March 1951	134.8
March 1950	126.0
March 1948	132.4

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2. The figures shown above raise some question as to the hardship being encountered by Agency personnel in [REDACTED] due to the cost of living situation there. It must be remembered that even though living costs have

risen there

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risen there in the last two years, they have also risen in the Washington, D. C., area. As you know, overseas allowances are not determined by the actual cost of living situation in the overseas area, but rather by the differences that exist between the particular overseas area and Washington, D. C.

25X1A 3. In any event, there is a serious question with respect to the propriety of the remedy suggested in the memorandum from the Chief, FE Division. Employees of other Federal agencies as well as the Branch Office of the CSC in [REDACTED] are more likely to react against this type of upgrading than to a supplemental cost of living allowance. If it can be shown that CIA employees and particularly the employees of the three
25X1A covert offices indicated are suffering hardship as a result of the present cost of living situation in [REDACTED] it would be preferable for the Assistant Directors of the offices concerned to exercise the authority which is now
25X1A theirs under [REDACTED] and authorize a special living allowance for the employees in question. It is suggested that this course of action be recommended to them.

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